NOSTALGIA

Cinemas screen Royal Wedding and it's all change for bus services

MIKE PETTY AND JAMES MILNER LOOK THROUGH THE CAMBRIDGE NEWS ARCHIVES AT SOME OF THE STORIES FROM THIS DAY IN THE PAST

The bus garage on Hills Road

CN

Bus depot moves to outskirts of city – 1984

CAMBRIDGE'S Hills Road bus depot is to be moved to the outskirts of the city in a multi-million pound swap deal between Cambus and the Stetchworth-based Unex property group.

Cambus will exchange its one-acre site for a much larger section of the former D and H Contractor's site in Cowley Road.

In return, Unex will get control of the bus depot virtually next door to the former Heffer's printing works site which they successfully redeveloped as Botanic House, headquarters of Cambridge Electronic Industries, BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and Betjeman House, which was subsequently sold for more than £4 million.

Library prises apart sacred Jewish writings – 1978

MASSES of documents are being prised apart at the Cambridge University Library to fill gaps in history spanning centuries.

The collection consists of 140,000 fragments, most in manuscript, the gift in 1898 of Dr Solomon Schechter.

In 1896, a Mrs Lewis brought back from Cairo a manuscript fragment, which she passed on to him at the university library.

He wrote in some excitement: "I think we have reason to congratulate ourselves.

"For the fragment I took with me represents a piece of the original Hebrew of Ecclesiasticus. It is the first time that such a thing was discovered."

Dr Schechter, aided by Dr Charles Taylor, master of St John's College, Cambridge, went to Cairo and emptied the Genizah, the depository for worn-out copies of sacred Jewish writings. He preserved several thousand fragments.

The rest were put aside, and it is those that the unit will go on processing and cataloguing for the next five years.

Dr Solomon Schechter, circa 1898, surrounded by boxes of manuscripts

CULTURE CLUB/GETTY

Drugs squad finds cannabis distillery – 1975

THE first cannabis resin distillery to be found in Cambridge was discovered when drugs squad detectives raided a house on the north side of the city.

After a tip-off, police surrounded a private house in a residential area. Inside, they found various pieces of equipment along with drugs substances. They took away tubing and bottles which forensic scientists are examining.

They believe distilled resin has been used to impregnate non-drug vegetable matter and foodstuffs for consumption by drug users.

Police regard their find as important in a city where soft drug abuse is fairly widespread.

Keep up to date with the past

- Read Mike Petty's Cambridgeshire Scrapbook to search for other stories.
- Join Fenland History on Facebook to share your photos and information.
- Follow James Milner on Twitter to receive regular updates each weekend.
- Take a trip down Memory Lane to search for, share and colourise photos.
- Subscribe to Mike Petty's YouTube channel to listen to some of this talks.